GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2562
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2016
Action against Offenders Violating Ganga Cleaning Guidelines
Patel Shri Natubhai Gomanbhai

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has started a cleanliness drive to clean Ganga;
(b) if so, the details of the works being undertaken by the Government to clean Ganga;
(c) whether the Government has issued any guideline/notification to punish/ penalize the offenders who thrown trash in Ganga; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the number of people thus punished during the current plan period till date?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) & (b) 'Namami Gange' cleanliness drive covers short term; medium term and long term activities. Under short term action plan, certain interventions have been visualized under the heading of 'Entry Level Activities which covers development of ghats, crematoria and river surface cleaning activities.
Under medium term action plan, existing Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) and Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) will be upgraded and new STPs and ETPs will be established with an aim to stop untreated sewerage and industrial wastes falling in the river. Besides, rural sanitation has been taken up in the villages on the banks of River Ganga.
The long term action plan involves restoration of wholesomeness of River Ganga, maintaining the ecological and geological integrity of the river.
As on 30th September 2016, 128 projects have been sanctioned under Namami Gange Programme (including the existing projects sanctioned under NGRBA Programme) at an estimated project cost of Rs.9419 crore. Out of these, 42 projects are sanctioned exclusively under new components of Namami Gange Programme with a sanctioned cost of Rs 977.07 crore. 58 project are sanctioned to create 808.23 MLD new STP and rehabilitation of 1089.00 MLD of STP and laying/ rehabilitation of 3627.15 Km sewer network. 8 projects are completed which has created 127.90 MLD of STP and laid 847.36 km of sewerage network.
(c) The existing legislations i.e., the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment Protection Act, 1986 provide for necessary penal action against the offenders.
(d) Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has inspected 752 Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) (as on 30th June, 2016) out of the identified 764 GPIs operating on the bank of River Ganga and issued directions under Section 5 of E (P) Act, 1986 to 573 units found non-compliant during inspection. Out of these 573 units, 65 units were issued closure directions. Five key industrial sectors namely, distillery, sugar, pulp & paper, tannery and textile contributing 90% of inorganic load into the river system have been issued directions to achieve water conservation and zero liquid discharge by March, 2017.
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